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May 6, 2005

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"Developing Standards that Drive the Business of Communications and Information Technology"

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Marlene H. Dortch Secretary Office of the Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

Re: Ex Parte Presentation in WT Docket No. 01-309

Section 68.4(a) of the Commission's Rules Governing

Hearing Aid Compatible Telephones

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On May 4, 2005, representatives from the Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions ("ATIS") Incubator Solutions Program 4 dealing with Hearing Aid Compatibility issues ("AISP.4-HAC" or "HAC Incubator"), met with representatives from the Federal Communications Commission's ("FCC") Wireless Telecommunications Bureau and Office of Engineering & Technology ("OET"). At the meeting, the HAC Incubator Representatives reported on the work being done by the ATIS HAC Incubator and provided an overview of the HAC Incubator's May 17 filing to be submitted pursuant to the FCC's August 14, 2003, *Report and Order* in the above-referenced docket.

The representatives also discussed the FCC's recently-released *Public Notice, DA 05-1134*, regarding the use of the revised draft version of the updated hearing aid compatibility standard, ANSI C63.19-2005. In this *Public Notice*, the FCC permits applicants for hearing aid compatibility to rely on either the 2001 or draft 2005 version of the C63.19 standard. ATIS HAC Incubator representatives noted that this may cause confusion because these two versions specify different letter designations for HAC compliance. The 2001 version of the C63.19 standard uses a "U" rating for radiofrequency (RF) Immunity and a "UT" rating for Acoustic Coupling. The 2005 draft of this standard, on the other hand, uses an "M" rating for RF Immunity and a "T" rating for Acoustic Coupling. (The 2005 version's labeling is consistent with the switches on hearing aids, which specify "M" for Microphone and "T" for T-Coil.) The ATIS HAC Incubator urged the FCC to provide written clarification to the industry that the labels specified in the 2005 draft version of the standard ("M" and "T" ratings) can and should be used to designate HAC compatibility.

Finally, the representatives provided copies of the educational materials created by the ATIS HAC Incubator to explain the FCC's hearing aid compatibility rules to key stakeholders. Copies of these materials are attached to this letter.



ATIS AISP.4-HAC *Ex Parte* May 6, 2005 Page 2

In attendance, representing the WTB were: Michael Wilhelm, Chief of the Public Safety & Critical Infrastructure Division; Angela Giancarlo, Associate Chief, Public Safety & Critical Infrastructure Division and Andra Cunningham, Attorney Advisor, Public Safety & Critical Infrastructure Division. In attendance, representing the OET were: Julius Knapp, Deputy Chief; Patrick Forster, Senior Engineer, Policy and Rules Division; Rashmi Doshi, Chief of the Laboratory Division; Martin Perrine, Electronic Engineer, Laboratory Division; and William Hurst, Chief, Technical Research Branch, Laboratory Division. The individuals representing the HAC Incubator were: Mary Jones, Consultant, T-Mobile USA; Steve Coston, Technical Manager, Regulatory Project Office, Sony Ericsson Mobile Communications; Susan Mazrui, Director, Federal Regulatory Affairs, Cingular Wireless, James Turner, Technical Coordinator, ATIS; Martha Ciske, Committee Administrator, ATIS; and Thomas Goode, Attorney, ATIS.

Pursuant to Section 1.1206(b)(2) of the Commission's rules, one copy of this letter is being filed electronically for inclusion in the public record of the above-referenced proceeding.

If there are any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

Thomas Goode

Attorney

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Attachment



ATIS AISP.4-HAC *Ex Parte* May 6, 2005 Page 3

cc: Michael Wilhelm, Chief, Public Safety & Critical Infrastructure Division, WTB

Angela Giancarlo, Associate Chief, Public Safety & Critical Infrastructure Division, WTB

Andra Cunningham, Attorney Advisor, Public Safety & Critical Infrastructure Division, WTB

Julius Knapp, Deputy Chief, OET

Patrick Forster, Senior Engineer, Policy and Rules Division, OET

Rashmi Doshi, Chief of the Laboratory Division, OET

Martin Perrine, Electronic Engineer, Laboratory Division, OET

William Hurst, Chief, Technical Research Branch, Laboratory Division, OET

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Steve Coston, Technical Manager, Regulatory Project Office, Sony Ericsson Mobile Communications, HAC

Susan Mazrui, Director, Federal Regulatory Affairs, Cingular Wireless, HAC

James Turner, Technical Coordinator, ATIS, HAC

Martha Ciske, Committee Administrator, ATIS, HAC

Thomas Goode, Attorney, ATIS, HAC